



California Environmental Protection Agency

Air Resources Board • Department of Pesticide Regulation • Department of Toxic Substances Control
Integrated Waste Management Board • Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
State Water Resources Control Board • Regional Water Quality Control Boards

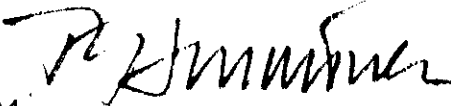


Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

MEMORANDUM

To: State Water Resources Control Board Executive Director
Regional Water Quality Control Boards Executive Officers
Department of Toxic Substances Control Director

From: Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary 

Date: September 28, 2004

Subject: PERCHLORATE PRIORITIZATION PROTOCOL

After many months of negotiations, the California/Department of Defense (DoD) Perchlorate Working Group (Working Group), made up of staff from the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Boards), and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), as well as all DoD service branches (Air Force, Navy, Army, Marine Corps, and US Army Corps of Engineers), has finalized its "Prioritization Protocol for Perchlorate Impacts to Drinking Water From Department of Defense Facilities in California" (copy attached). The document is intended as guidance for Regional Board and DTSC project managers to work with their DoD counterparts in identifying and investigating possible perchlorate release areas on military sites and installations that may be impacting drinking water sources. In our discussions, DoD has committed to us that the protocol and its implementation is not to impact or replace any ongoing environmental restoration activities that may already include work related to perchlorate.

The Working Group held a workshop on July 1, 2004 in San Diego with State and DoD program managers to get feedback on the protocol and its implementation. The workshop attendees raised numerous questions. Those questions and responses to those questions have been compiled into a question and answer matrix (also attached). An implementation schedule and next steps have also been negotiated, which can be found in the attached action plan.

To fulfill our commitments made to the Working Group and to expeditiously move forward with implementing the protocol, I ask that you disseminate these documents to those staff in your organizations that work on DoD sites and direct them to make contact with their DoD counterparts to implement it. I appreciate your support of this effort. If you have any questions, please contact Rick Brausch at (916) 445-3131 (or rbrausch@calepa.ca.gov).

Attachments